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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

In Reply Refer To
V-SOBSOKOV, Tscherim

Nov. 1, 1979

Mr. Joseph F. Lynch
Trial Attorney
Office of Special Investigations
Criminal Division
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

re: Soobsokov, Tscherim
aka Showabzoqa, AbdelKarim

Dear Mr. Lynch:

Mr. Rudolph Rivera in the Bureau of Consular Affairs, Office of Citizen Consular Services has forwarded to me for action your memo of October 11, requesting a file check under the name Showabzoqa, Abdel-Karim.

The alias Showabzoqa was included in your original July 27 request to this office, and in our telephone conversation of early October, I indicated to you that our Embassy in Amman shows no record under either name. Neither the records of the Visa Services Directorate nor the Department ADS files from 1945 to present reveal any file under these names, in relation to the original visa case at issue.

Regarding your questions on the procedures for researching and evaluating the admission of Waffen SS membership which Mr. Soobsokov alleges to have made during his visa application, our Regulations and Legislation historical files on the Foreign Affairs Manual reveal only that under regulations and procedures extant at the time of visa application in 1954, this alien would not have been found to be ineligible for a visa based on his Waffen SS service alone. It appears from the front page of his visa application, form FS-256a, that his German Army service was made known to the consular officer. In order to provide you with the actual procedures

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which would have followed upon application for this visa, I am presently sifting through the body of separate procedural airgrams which constituted the Department's instructions to the field on clearance checks prior to the codification of the appendices to the Visa Handbook in 1959. Since it may be difficult if not impossible to locate the pertinent instruction at this late date, I am also working on pinpointing the basis for the expert testimony of the consular officer during the original Federenko trial in Second District Florida last year.

As soon as I am able to give you more specifics on the Department's processing of the type of case in question, I will contact you again. If there are any further questions on which I might be of assistance, do not hesitate to call. I can be reached at 632-2571.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Linda Mathews Eckhardt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Linda Mathews Eckhardt
Advisory Opinions Division
Visa Services Directorate